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Peace

2065

Universal Religious Peace Conference

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Preliminary Announcement

Publication No. 1

Prayer for Universal Peace Through Brotherhood

HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK

ETERNAL GOD, Father of all souls: Grant unto us such clear vision of the sin of war that we may earnestly seek that cooperation between nations which alone can make war impossible. As man by his inventions has made the whole world into one neighborhood, grant that he may by his cooperations make the whole world into one brotherhood.

Help us to break down all race prejudice, stay the greed of those who profit by war and the ambitions of those who seek an imperialistic conquest drenched in blood. Guide all statesmen to seek a just basis for international action in the interest of peace. Arouse in the whole body of the people an adventurous willingness, as they sacrificed greatly for war, so also for international good-will, to dare bravely, think wisely, decide resolutely and to achieve triumphantly. *Amen.*

Preliminary Announcement No. 1

ANNOUNCEMENT of a world-wide religious peace conference, in which men and women from all countries and all religious faiths will participate because of their ability, knowledge and interest in those questions which affect human brotherhood and international accord between the nations, and who believe that religion offers a means of establishing permanent peace on earth and goodwill among men.

THE CHURCH PEACE UNION
70 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY, U. S. A.

Universal Religious Peace Conference

Preamble

THE conditions which today face humanity and threaten the progress of the World demand that all men of goodwill from every religion associate themselves in promoting peace among the nations.

Every religiously-minded person is confident of that invisible, superhuman, spiritual power which is available for lifting the life of humanity to divine levels. There is needed now more urgently than ever before, the help of devout men of faith who are concerned for the brotherly co-operation of the world.

Individuals selected from the historic religions in all nations are being invited to come together for the purpose of formulating and carrying out constructive plans for the banishing of war from the world. This conference will not be composed of officially appointed delegates.

Its findings will commit no religious body.

It will be a conference of individuals associated with and holding the views of different religions.

In the proposed meeting no one will be encouraged to boast of the past or of any superiority except in his ability to serve humanity and to rid the earth of the age-long curse of war. There will be no attempt to compare religions nor to judge nor ad-

BUDDHISM
Language:
PALI
Let one cultivate good will towards all the world,—a mind illimitable, unobstructed, without hatred, without enmity. This mode of living is the supreme good.
SUTTA-NIPATA
150-151

मेत्तं च सब्बलोकस्मिन्
मानसं भावये अपरिमाणं
असंबाधम् अवेरम् असपत्तम्
ब्रह्मं एतं विहारम्

Preamble
(Continued)

just according to any scale the religious faith of an individual or people. It will not be the purpose of this Conference to attempt to establish a formal league of religions as such, nor will it interest itself in the internal activities of the various faiths. Neither will there be discussed questions relating to doctrine, formulas and forms of faith, nor will any effort be made to expose or to espouse any political or social system nor give force to any criticism of such national and community arrangements as are now recognized and held sacred in the various parts of the world. *The sole purpose of the Conference will be to consider how the forces of religion in all nations can be mobilized in a concerted action against war and that spirit and those things that make for war.*

Surely men and women of all religions can now share with one another this high concern and it is of the utmost importance that, in humility of spirit and with high hopes, the leaders should come together and in a brotherly spirit contribute all that is possible from their respective communities to this lofty aim of peace on earth, goodwill toward men.

μακάριοι οἱ εἰρηνοποιοί,
ὅτι υἱοὶ θεοῦ κληθήσονται.

CHRISTIANITY
Language:
GREEK
Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called children of God.
MATTHEW
5.9

Universal Religious Peace Conference

Background and History

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY.—The Church Peace Union was founded in 1914 by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. A Board of 29 Trustees was appointed representative of the principal religious faiths of America. The idea in the mind of the founder was that the combined religious life of America should be brought to bear upon this important question of securing permanent peace on earth. No limit was to be placed upon the scope of the program nor the breadth of its appeal. It has always been the cherished ambition of those charged with the responsibility for administering the affairs of The Church Peace Union that its work should expand until it would embrace the total religious life of humanity. In 1924 the question of holding a Universal Religious Peace Conference was discussed in the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees and at that time a Committee to deal with the matter was appointed. The General Secretary, acting for this Committee, has conferred with leaders of various faiths in many nations and now the Committee is of the opinion that the time has come to make formal announcement and send out a call for a meeting composed of a few representatives selected from the various religions throughout the world, to devise plans and create the simple machinery necessary for holding such a Conference.

CONFUCIANISM
Language:
CHINESE
Within the four seas all are brothers.
ANALECTS
12.5.4

四海之内皆兄弟也

Purpose of the Conference

PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE.—To bring together adherents of the world's living religions to discuss questions relating to international justice and goodwill. To make known the content of each religion relating to these questions. To compare the ideals of human brotherhood and world peace as inculcated by the various religions and, if possible, secure agreement on the following:

a. The emphasis on human brotherhood as essential to all religions.

b. World peace can be established only through the recognition of Universal Brotherhood.

c. The religions of the world can co-operate by each working in its own sphere for the attainment of these ideals.

d. Adoption of general plans looking toward this end.

गुह्यं ब्रह्म तदिदं वो ब्रवीमि
न मानुषात् श्रेष्ठतरं हि किञ्चित्

HINDUISM
Language:
SANSKRIT
To you I declare this holy mystery: There is nothing nobler than humanity.
MAHABHARATA
12.300.20

Universal Religious Peace Conference

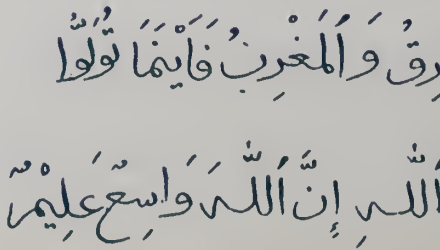
Preliminary Meetings

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS—It is proposed to hold a Preliminary Conference on Plans and Arrangements sometime during the summer of 1928 to perfect the plans for the Conference and create such organization and elect such officers as may be necessary to carry on the work. It is to be noted that the creation of a new organization is not contemplated. The Church Peace Union assumes responsibility for all arrangements and only such new machinery will be created as is needed to carry out the purposes of the Conference and make it effective.

1. The Church Peace Union, through its Executive will continue to enlist the support of all who believe in the value of such a conference, and win others to its objectives.
2. Small group conferences will be held in the various countries throughout the world to which will be invited representative men and women, adherents to the religions of these lands.
3. Other religious and ethical agencies and educational groups will be encouraged to hold conferences of a similar character wherever possible.
4. All of these efforts, while ultimately directed to the plans for the great world conference in 1930, will immediately make clear the need for, and focus attention upon, the holding of the "Preliminary Conference on Plans and Arrangements."

The Committee proposes to select fifty individuals from the eleven living religions and invite them to

ISLAM
Language:
ARABIC
To God belong the East and the West. Therefore whithersoever ye turn, is the face of God. Verily, God is all-pervading, all-knowing.
KORAN
2.109



join the members of the Committee and the officers of The Church Peace Union, together with ten additional representative men and women chosen at large throughout the world. The total number of delegates invited to this preliminary conference will thus be seventy-five. At this meeting it is proposed to discuss and find agreement if possible upon the following questions:

Preliminary Meetings (*Continued*)

1. Shall the Conference be made up of 1,000 members selected according to an agreed proportion and shall these selections be made as soon as possible and the members of this Committee of 1,000 be recognized, prior to the meeting of the Conference, as "The World Committee of a Thousand?"
2. When the Conference assembles shall the members of the World Committee of a Thousand be recognized as the official members of the Conference, each entitled to a vote?
3. Shall arrangements be made for the seating of additional delegates in the Conference entitled to the privilege of the floor and a voice in the Conference, their admission being conditioned upon their registration and payment of a small fee?
4. Shall it be agreed that no votes be taken in the Conference?
5. Shall the Conference, when permanently organized, have a President, eleven Vice-Presidents, one each from the eleven religions represented, a General Secretary and such Committees as conduct of the business may require?
6. Shall the Conference be held sometime during the spring or summer of 1930?

Continued on page 8

सयल-जगज-जीव-हियं पवेत्तहि धम्म-तित्थं
परहिय-सुह-निस्सेयस-करं सव्वलोए सव्वजीवाणं भविस्सै

JAINISM
Language: PRAKRIT
Establish the religion of the law which benefits all living beings in the whole universe! It will bring supreme benefit to all living beings in all the world!
KALPA SUTRA
III

Universal Religious Peace Conference

Preliminary Meetings (*Continued*)

7. Shall the Conference be held in Geneva, Brussels, Berlin, Constantinople, Vienna, Cairo or Washington?

8. Shall some such proposal as to program be adopted?
   a. The Conference shall continue for sixteen days.
   b. Arrangement of program by days:

First Day: Committee arrange for appointment of Chairman pro tem. General registration and preliminary opening ceremonies.

Second Day: Key-note addresses, one each by an outstanding representative of the East and the West; one from the Near East and one from Central Europe. Appointment of Committee and other details of organization.

Third to Fourteenth Day: Each day devoted to an exposition, by a leader or leaders of one of the great religions, of this topic: "What can my Religion Contribute to International Justice and Goodwill?" *The method of presentation and arrangements for discussion periods and group meetings will be worked out by the Executive Committee itself.*

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Days: Report of Committee and general discussion. Actions to be taken, if any, Resolutions, etc.

Sixteenth Day: Appropriate closing ceremonies and addresses.

JUDAISM
Language:
HEBREW
And they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.
ISAIAH
2.4

וְכִתְּתוּ חַרְבוֹתָם לְאִתִּים
וְחַנִיתוֹתֵיהֶם לְמַזְמֵרוֹת
לֹא־יִשָּׂא גּוֹי אֶל־גּוֹי חֶרֶב
וְלֹא־יִלְמְדוּ עוֹד מִלְחָמָה

Organization

ORGANIZATION.—The Church Peace Union through its own Committee will serve to bring together the meeting that is to be held in the summer of 1928, at which time the General Executive Committee will be organized and The Church Peace Union, as such, will assume only such responsibility as may be agreed upon by the members who come together in this preliminary meeting.

Finances

FINANCES.—Arrangements will be made through The Church Peace Union for financing the Committee of seventy-five, its work and its first meeting. This Committee will when it meets determine all further plans and undertakings.

今日留此間. 爲祓禊而

明日參出而. 將拜神宮

SHINTO
Language:
JAPANESE
"I will halt here today; and, having purified myself, will go forth tomorrow; and worship at the temple of the Diety."
KOJIKI
133

Universal Religious Peace Conference

Appeal for Co-operation

AN APPEAL FOR CO-OPERATION.—This Committee fully recognizes the enormous task to which it has set itself. Never before in the history of the world has any such attempt been made to mobilize the religious life and impulse of all nations and peoples in a concerted action for goodwill, universal human brotherhood and the abolition of war. Governmental, scientific, educational and business agencies are at work bringing together men from all nations for this great purpose, but all of these lack that fundamental and compelling power which religion alone can furnish. There is no serious group of men and women anywhere, no matter in what worthy work they are interested and engaged, but knows the value of a great spiritual motive as the deciding factor between success and failure. Religion holds a recognized place in government, in science, in education, in business. It still remains for the forces of the world's religions to unite against the forces that make for war. Let its organized spirit once be put behind those agencies which are at work for peace and goodwill among all men, and the day will soon dawn upon a warless world.

The Church Peace Union, therefore, invites men and women of all faiths to co-operate with them in the enterprise, not for the sake of a Conference itself, or an organization, but under the compulsion of the ideals dwelling in the heart of all religions.

TAOISM
Language:
CHINESE
Weapons, even though successful, are unblessed implements, detestable to every creature. Therefore, he who has the Eternal, will not employ them.
TAO-TEH-KING
31.1

夫佳兵者不祥之器物或
惡之故有道者不處

Publications

PUBLICATIONS.—Leaflets and pamphlets will be prepared from time to time relating to the Conference and its work, touching the following subjects:

History and Purpose of the Conference.

Organization, with names of World Conference, Executive Committee and Officers.

Series of pamphlets relating to international justice and goodwill written from the standpoint of each one of the religions.

A book of devotions drawn from the sacred writings of each of the great religions.

Miscellaneous documents and pamphlets.

The purpose of this printing will be to advertise the Conference and to lay before the world its purposes and the ideas it hopes to promulgate. Nothing will be published and circulated officially except upon the recommendation of the Committee on Publication, which will act under the direct authority of the Executive Committee.

Languages

LANGUAGES.—The official languages of the Conference shall be English, French and German. An attempt will be made, however, to have all the documents translated into the official language of each of the religions. Speeches and addresses at the Conference can be made in any tongue. Provision, however, will be made to have them translated only into the three official languages.

ਛਿਅ ਘਰ ਛਿਅ ਗੁਰ ਛਿਅ ਉਪਦੇਸ
ਗੁਰੁ ਗੁਰੁ ਏਕੋ ਦੇਸ ਅਨੇਕ
ਸੂਰਜੁ ਏਕੋ ਰੁਤਿ ਅਨੇਕ
ਨਾਨਕ ਕਰਤੇ ਕੇ ਕੇਤੇ ਦੇਸ.

SIKHISM
Churches, teachers, teachings half a dozen! The Teacher of teachers is One; His forms, many. The sun is one; the seasons many. Innumerable are the manifestations of the Creator.
ADI GRANTH
SOHILA 2.1-2

The CHURCH PEACE UNION

FOUNDED BY ANDREW CARNEGIE

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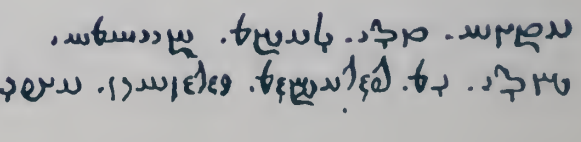
Publications Nos. 1, 2 and 3 may be obtained at the offices of The Church Peace Union, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City, U. S. A.

*Deceased.

ZOROASTRIANISM

Language:
Avestan

May we ourselves be they who help to make this world progress!
Yasna
30.9